



THE HARVEST

Macdonald College

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AFFAIRES INTERNATIONALES

Ce numéro spécial sur les affaires internationales n'a pas l'air d'avoir réveillé beaucoup d'aspirants-écrivains en cette avant-dernière semaine de cours.

La rumeur se calme à l'approche des examens, le dernier rush des travaux et puis le printemps qui nous emmène en gondole dans nos Venises imaginaires...

Quoiqu'il en soit, l'équipe du Harvest, fidèle bouche-trou des semaines creuses, écrit, encore et toujours, pour remplir les espaces vides de cette dernière édition de l'année 1980-81. Et on va même s'offrir un party pour enterrer l'année, normal.

Mais revenons-en au sujet. Sur la scène internationale, il s'en passe des choses. A l'ouest rien de nouveau, ça va mal: LE virage à droite (cf Hélène, Harvest de décembre) continue de plus belle avec les vedettes de l'année le presque-assassiné-mais-physiologiquement-si-jeune-hollywoodien-Reagan et son armée de républicains-anti-bolcheviques (on se croirait en 1917, 65 ans plus tard...). La lutte anti URSS continue, avec des intermédiaires mis à sac et à sang (El Salvador-Chili*Paraguay-Honduras etc. + Viet-Nam-Cambodge-Afghanistan etc.) au nom de la Défense des Droits de l'Homme (lesquels, au fait?)

Quant à l'est, la situation est aussi réconfortante: la Pologne se lance dans le chaos, la Chine s'étrangle dans son après Mao décadence, l'URSS prend le trans-sibérien à l'envers...

EL PARAGUAY

Do you know that the President of Paraguay is a General (Stroessner) first elected after a coup d'état in 1954, is still president 27 years later?

For the last elections (the 6th since 1954) in 1978, 90% of the population went to vote, and he was re-elected with 90% that is a real majority...

Isn't he a great man? He must be... I know a lot of politicians that would be glad to be so appreciated by their electors... after 24 years!!!

La CEE cache ses plaies en mangeant des frites à Bruxelles, l'Afrique pleure au creux de la brousse ses rêves perdus, Le Japon respire avec des masques à oxygène...

Les pluies acides se promènent sans frontières, les centrales nucléaires poussent comme des champignons sur ce gigantesque tas de merde.

J'ai 23 ans et seulement 2 dents de sagesse (encore chanceluse, l'Evolution veut que tous n'en ont pas...). Et je pose des questions sans encore trouver une ombre de réponse. Macdonald est l'une des places où je pensais avancer un peu;

un tout petit peu, pour me rassurer: se dire qu'on est décidément pas tout seul. Non, on n'est pas tout seul à marcher la tête en l'air, mais vous, Ph D. professeurs, il serait temps peut-être que vous en preniez conscience. Vous avez le savoir et l'expérience (ce qu'on nous répète depuis 15 ans) Nous, on a seulement la question: qu'est-ce qui va bien pouvoir sortir de tout ça??

Et puis, comme se disait Léonard de Vinci, dernier multi-génie de notre histoire: "Leonardo, perché tanto peiné?"

Christine

RACISME - APARTHEID

Savez-vous que de nos jours il existe encore un pays où l'homme est officiellement reconnu comme inférieur? Si vous n'étiez pas au courant, il est temps que vous sachiez qu'en:

AFRIQUE du SUD

OU

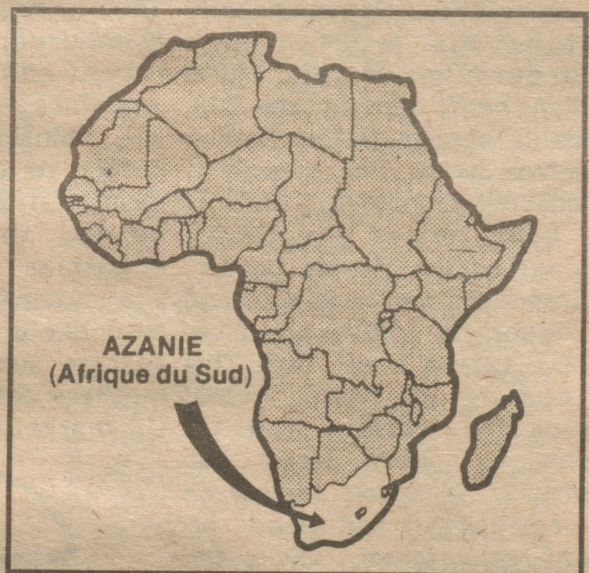
AZANIE

- 45 millions de blancs contrôlent 22 millions d'Africains noirs
- où cette infime partie de blancs, appartient 87% des terres
- que les 13% du territoire (forme de terres incultes) est réservé à la population Africaine qui est agglutinée dans quelques agglomérations.
- que le noir n'a pas droit de vote, ni de parole
- que le noir est payé \$1.90 pour 12 heures de travail alors que les prix des denrées alimentaires sont aussi exorbitantes qu'en occident...
- que l'homme noir est séparé de sa famille des semaines et des mois durant, lorsqu'il a la chance d'avoir été choisi parmi des centaines d'autres noirs pour aller travailler dans les secteurs blancs
- qu'aucun noir n'a le droit d'occuper un poste qui serait supérieur à celui d'un blanc
- que le noir n'a pas accès (ou difficilement) aux écoles
- et l'on peut continuer sa vitam eternam

mais COMMENT cela a débuté?

C'est avec l'arrivée des Hollandais et des portugais au 16^{ème} siècle en Afrique du Sud que les choses ont commencé à se gâter..

Depuis toujours les Africains qui habitaient de se déplaçaient à travers le territoire à la recherche de terres plus fertiles. C'est ainsi qu'ils ne rencontrèrent pas les occidentaux lorsque ceux-ci arrivèrent. Ces derniers prirent alors pour acquis qu'ils étaient les premiers occupants de ces terres. C'est ainsi qu'ils se sont appropriés les terres et qu'ils ont pris en charge le pays, repoussant tout individu noir, qu'ils disaient venir des pays avoisinants.



De plus en plus écrasé, opprimé par la classe dominante, le noir depuis déjà plus de 300 ans a servi à accroître la richesse et la puissance du régime blanc (qui a légalisé la ségrégation dans toutes les sphères de la vie quotidienne = APARTHEID)

En fait si le régime blanc a pu ainsi prospérer c'est grâce aux sérieux investissements étrangers.

Dans les années 20 le gouvernement Sud Africain (blanc) a créé une série de corporations:

Lifeboat Ethics on Spaceship EARTH

Lifeboat ethics

If I were to ask you the straight forward question: "Should we (the rich nations of Spaceship Earth) feed the hungry of this world?" you would probably not hesitate to reply, "Sure, absolutely!"

And yet, would you realise that you had accepted a tremendous moral responsibility when you said this? How would you turn your good intentions into action? Or would you leave such tricky questions to be worked out by your elected representative?

The question of who should do what for whom has been answered in many different ways by many different people. I would like to outline here one viewpoint which has sparked a continuing controversy, and provoked serious questions about the political repercussions of such an opinion.

Garrett Hardin is a prominent biologist in the US who has been propounding what he calls 'Lifeboat Ethics'. He says we should not feed the hungry. Nor should we provide development aid to poor countries to help them build up their economies and their agriculture.

The lifeboat metaphor goes something like this:

We (the rich countries) are living in a lifeboat which will safely hold fifty people. Other lifeboats all around have capsized or floundered because the number of people in them exceeded the safety limit of say, sixty people per lifeboat. Some

of them still have as many as 100-150 people in them.

According to Hardin we have three basic choices. We can:

1) Let 100 people into our lifeboat and therefore risk capsizing- endangering our own survival.

2) Let in ten people, making our life precarious, and uniformly miserable for everyone. And which ten do we choose to let in?

3) Refuse all pleas for help and maintain our own safety margin, thereby ensuring the continuance of our own relatively comfortable lifestyle.

Hardin wishes to practice 'triage', a term first used during WWI by French medical personnel who had to sort out the wounded in order to treat those who had the best chance of survival first, since there were too few doctors for the number of patients. This would mean the exclusion of those countries where population has outpaced food supplies from aid programs designed to save these people from starvation.

As a biologist, Hardin takes the view, that in such a circumstance, a natural balance between population and food supply has been upset, and can only be re-equilibrated by means of a natural elimination of those people who are 'in excess'. Bluntly, people will have to starve to achieve this balance.

It follows that if a world reserve of food is created for emergencies where this balance is upset, poor countries will become dependent on these 'free

lunches'. There would be no incentive to set up adequate birth control programs if emergency funds exist to bail out the short-sighted leaders of the poor world.

With this easy solution provided to the poor countries, there is apparently nothing to prevent the population problem from growing and engulfing all of the lifeboats, resulting in the capsizing of even the rich lifeboats, and the collapse of the entire world system.

What are we able to say in response to Prof. Hardin's interpretation of the pessimism of Thomas Malthus? Lifeboat ethics assumes that an individual does not have a moral responsibility to other human beings who are in desperate need. To many people this selfishness and insensitivity is offensive and unacceptable.

In Hardin's view, if this is the way we feel, all we have to do is give up our place on our own, safe lifeboat, and give our place to someone less fortunate than ourselves. While this would hardly solve the problem of hunger, it would perhaps satisfy one's own peculiar sense of moral responsibility towards the hungry. Our responsibility lies with future generations says Hardin. We must not bequeath to them a world that is less satisfying and stimulating than it has supposedly been for us.

And yet, what of the future generations in the hungry nations of the world? Or, for that matter, the hungry who exist in our own wealthy society? It is assumed by the Lifeboat Ethic that these future inhabitants of the planet should be resigned to the fate which their parents' mistakes had prepared for them.

They respond in the only way they can- by having children, in the hope that some of them will survive and provide for their parents in their old age.

Where an improvement in the standard of living, (ie, in education, access to food or the means of growing it) occurs in the poor lifeboats, there is a resultant reduction in the birth rate, and in the rate of population growth. This has occurred, for example, in Taiwan and China, two countries which can hardly be said to have the same political ideals. They instituted effective agrarian reform, and improved the educational system of the nations, resulting in increased food security and a falling of the birth rate.

These divergent examples both brought a change in the distribution of control over what, and how much food is produced, resulting in more food for more people. This would seem to argue convincingly against the fear of population exploding totally out of control, which Hardin, and many others have expressed.

Finally, the exploitation of the poor by the rich is also taken in stride by the Lifeboat ethicists. The long history of colonial and neo-colonial domination and economic control of the poor, 'hungry' nations, is testament against the moral poverty of Hardin's position. The recognition of past and present inequalities would certainly not lend itself to a philosophy which accepts no responsibility towards anyone but oneself. It is a position which I cannot possibly accept because it ignores the reality of the causes of hunger, while placing the blame where it does not belong.

Hamburger connection

Ronald McDonald may appear to be a care-free clown, happily chomping his way through hamburgers made of 100% Canadian beef, but in the US, McDonalds appear to be fooling themselves as to the origins of their quarter-pounders.

When beef enters the United States, say at the Mexico border, it is inspected and stamped, and then becomes indistinguishable from US raised beef. So? This beef coming up from Central America to satisfy the US demand for lean beef for hamburgers, is being raised on land recently occupied by tropical rain forest. Once the protective forest canopy is removed, this land rapidly loses its fertility, as the heavy rains leach out the remaining nutrients, and the soils slowly turn into laterite (a rock).

While in the first year after cutting, the land can support approximately eight cattle per hectare, after a couple of years this land can support only one steer. This doesn't seem to bother the ranchers, who are quite happy to cut down the extra trees to expand their ranches, thereby increasing the damage done to this fairly

fragile eco-system.

The article, called 'The Hamburger Connection', in a recent edition of Ambio, which examines this problem, suggests the solution is for the US to reduce its demand for hamburger meat, but another solution would be for the Central American countries involved to regulate the cutting down of the forests, an unlikely move, considering the fairly substantial profit the ranchers can make, selling to the US market.



False Assumptions

Lifeboat ethics rests on two basic premises:

1) that population growth is the cause of world hunger, and must be controlled before anything else can be done to improve the lot of starving people, and

2) that the good fortune of the rich is not due in any part to the exploitation of the poor masses in the waters and lifeboats all around them. It has been said many times over in response to the same basic argument put forward by Hardin, that population growth has been brought about as a result of hunger. The contrary is simply not true. Hunger has existed, and does exist, because the means of growing food and the access to food has been restricted by inequalities of distribution, and not because there is a real scarcity of food. The scarcity is artificial, caused by the control of food production lying with the rich in both the developed and developing countries.

Poor people placed in such a position of extreme insecurity and impoverishment respond in an altogether logical manner.



Premises of the Wild Life trip to the Southern States (Photo.: M.M.).

EDITORIAL

FOR PEOPLE'S SAKE

"Believe me, I wouldn't offer her to trade her half broken rake for a new one.

This is Haiti, three years ago. Here I was, a stranger out of nowhere for the Haitians in a village out of nowhere for me; and there was she, with her half broken rake.

-Why not? I retorted to my Haitian friend.

-You people just do and nothing else when you do something, he stunted back, us while we do one thing, we do everything. Watch!

I did. Perhaps the half broken rake did slow her down,

difficulties of the world. Little do we know about the day to day struggle for better food preservation, roads, or peasants organizations. Saved as we are by the anonymity of the situation, we may dose off to better tomorrows, or switch the channel.

Beyond the politics, the military, the C.I.A. and ourselves, this anonymity is the biggest barrier yet to be broken if true development is to be achieved.

The enormity of the situation nearly forbids any sensitivity. The annual statistics

Lack of political will in the industrialized countries has favored the continuation of the one way North-South dialogue. The bewildered nature of this leads to misunderstanding of definitions. Technology, for example, viewed through american lenses of high energy requirements, misses the needs of societies where human and animal labor, subsistence agriculture are the central means of maintenance of a community. Itself a distortion of values, the consideration of gasohol as being more important than the 16 million tons of corn needed for



but her being there every morning, every day, had become a custom site for the villagers and through her salutations and discussions, her social life came into focus. This section of road kept so meticulously clean, was indeed her outpost to look on her immediate univers.

A new rake, or a paved road, would have perhaps eased her work, but maybe it would have also eliminated the legitimate place and function through which she felt and was felt as part of the community, a dear social price to pay for savage progress.

A naive story some will say, it forever bears an often forgotten lesson: development is the story of people.

The little we know of the third world, has come to us in neat parcels of blood, famine, floods; front page pictures to our bed-time encounter with the

released by the F.A.O. for 1979, state that 60% of the children born in the third world died before the age of five. But how can the significance of this 60% be perceived, if little is known and felt of the actual drama facing the families, the villages and the country?

Day to day confrontation with famine, with a chronic question of precarious survival don't find neither expression nor words in the statistical language, and yet, with the increased concern over human rights, little outcry is heard about the hypocritical and yet absolute torture of hunger. It eradicates the future of multitudes by depriving them of access to health services, education, adequate housing, cleaving villages, countries between those who can pay the price of food, and those who pay the costs of food production.

its fabrication suggest strains of values and ideas incompatible with the basic principles behind a new world economic order.

Since most of our relations to society is through consumption, a choice of the product, the producers, and consideration of the mechanics of the market, will send us a long way, here at home, in participating in development today.

Development passes through an appeal to our concern as people, to feel the needs of others, often unknown and unseen, but whose reality is brought into our lives through the food we eat, the energy we consume and our external links to the world.

If fear does not confine and cement us permanently within ourselves, development may mean one day the right of people to live as people.

Wilfrid Raby

U.S.A. - A HELPING ARM?

'Military aid' comprises over 90% of Alexander Haig's recent budget proposal for US foreign aid. Why? The answers lie both in the US and in the recipient country.

The US is, of course, a superpower; power meaning the ability to assert one's will over others. The US is a world leader in pioneering technology to allow increasingly smaller numbers of people dominate other, less well-equipped, masses of people. Half of the scientists in the US are employed in developing this technology. Why?

A partial answer is that the powerful tend to perpetuate themselves, and therefore are locked into a vicious circle of never-ending production of military hardware. A more complete answer takes into account that the production and sale of weapons is a good business, even when these weapons are given away. To understand this one must examine conditions in the countries the US aids.

Nicaragua, El Salvador, Iran; three examples of countries aided by the US. Typical countries, except in the fact that they have managed, to an extent, to free themselves from US aid, with El Salvador still in the process. These countries are epitomized by extreme poverty endured by the vast majority of the population, and immense wealth enjoyed by a few ruling families. This wealth is dependent on their continued domination of the economic system of the country, but ultimately on the ability to dominate and intimidate by military violence.

Military aid is given by the US to ensure the ruling elites stay in power; save from both internal and external threats. Essentially they maintain the existing unbalanced distribution

of wealth. Why is this to their advantage?

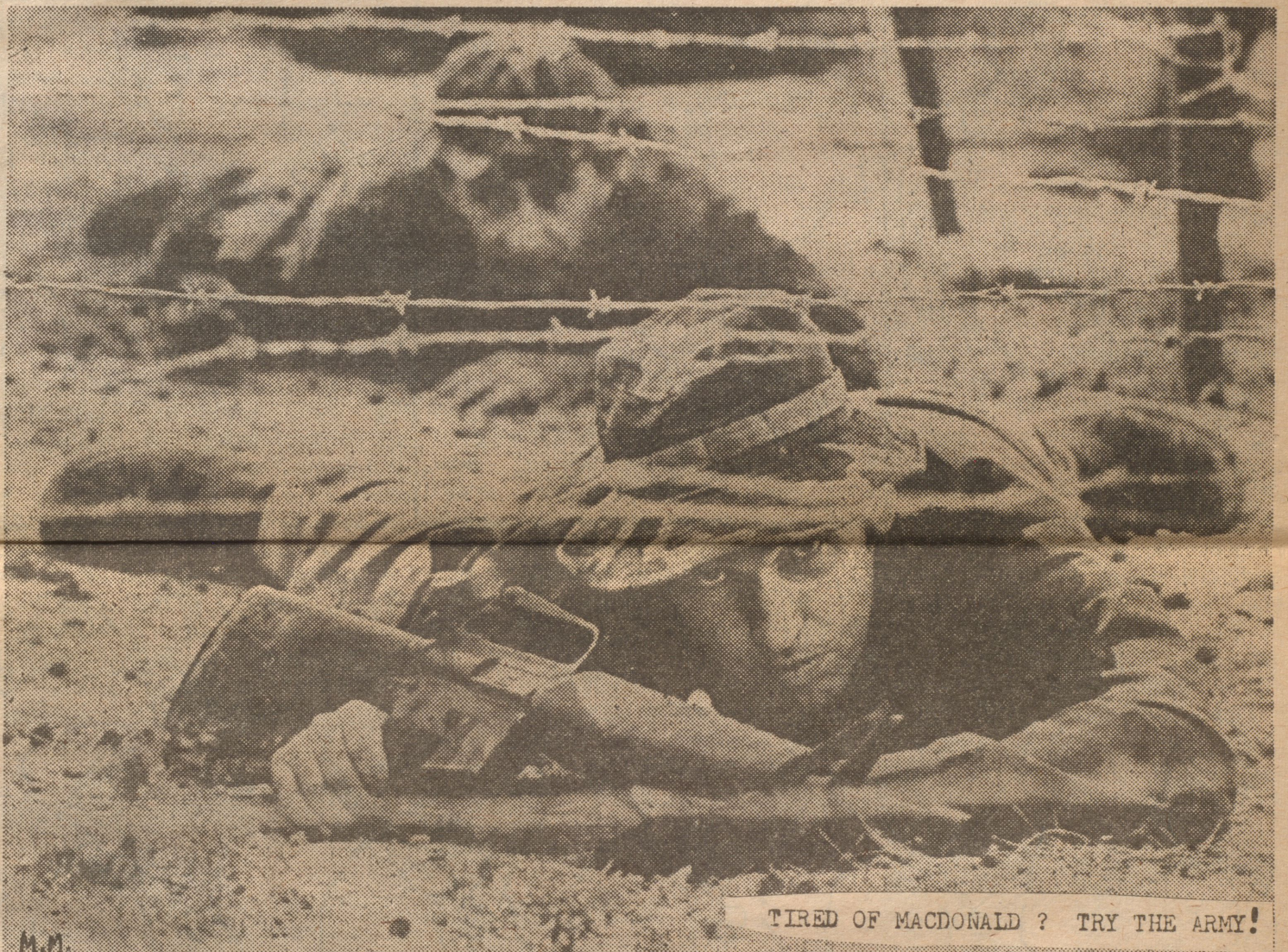
** Because the stranglehold maintained on the economy keeps wages low, so that multi-nationals with substantial american ownership, can reap huge profits from their operations. In this respect a key factor is the holding of land. If a peasant has only a quarter acre of land, a year's labour will not produce much. If he had two or three acres, his return to labour would be higher, but the majority of the land is in huge estates belonging to the rich. In Nicaragua, for example, huge estates were granted by Somoza to his generals and high advisors,

from land expropriated from the peasants. That's not much of a change from the feudal system of Europe during the Middle Ages. ** Because the US has to import many of its raw materials. Military aid ensures those supplies by protecting them from invasion, and from take-over by the people of the country. For example, Iran was a good customer of the US military suppliers- both to be able to resist invasions by Iraq, and to suppress 'unrest' in the country itself.

What we have then, is a modified colonial system, not the blatant form, where British soldiers were rushed to quell

'native uprisings', but a slightly more subtle form where suppression is carried out by the country's own forces, equipped, and often trained by their self-interested superpower. But of course the US is not the only one involved in the neo-colonialist game. The USSR, China, and various European countries are playing too. So, by the time you get around to considering the small portion of US foreign aid that is not for the military, but donated out of the milk of human kindness, you can be pretty sure who is going to end up with the cream.

Jon Waterhouse.



TIRED OF MACDONALD ? TRY THE ARMY!

L'APARTHEID CONTINUE

"Para-stats" impliqués dans les finances, la production énergétique, les mines, les industries lourdes... et en échange des investissements étrangers pour la croissance de ces corporations, le gouvernement blanc (connu sous le nom de Pretoria) offrait des taux d'intérêts allant jusqu'au double de ceux donnés dans le reste du monde.

Ces profits provenant des taxes et d'autres sources et en particulier du "cheap labour". De nombreuses multinationales (Texaco, General Motors...) plusieurs pays occidentaux (U.S., Canada, France) ont investi des sommes fabuleuses.

C'est grâce à ce soutien que l'Afrique du Sud a pu se développer, devenir un des plus grands producteurs de platine, d'étain, d'aluminium dans le monde et, par ces sources de revenus, agrandir ses forces militaires et lancer l'industrie nucléaire.

Si depuis 1957, les U.S., la R.F.A. et la France ont fournis l'infrastructure technologique, l'uranium enrichi... c'est pour s'assurer un approvisionnement en

uranium, en étain etc... durant les années à venir.

Ainsi un grand nombre de pays occidentaux, pour des intérêts stratégiques et économiques soutiennent l'Afrique du Sud et son régime d'apartheid (ségregation raciale) inhumain et brutal, un régime sous lequel sont torturés des centaines et des milliers de noirs, (ceux dont on ne reparlera jamais, ceux qui ont tout simplement voulu faire reconnaître leur droit d'exister en tant qu'hommes)

SURTOUT ne dites pas que vous n'avez rien à voir avec ce problème... car comme vous le savez McGill détient des parts dans plusieurs des compagnies américaines qui ont des investissements en Afrique. McGill a plus de \$7,600,000 en actions de la Banque Royale, la Banque de Montréal

Alors tenez vous au courant, informez vous auprès du comité contre l'apartheid de Macdonald....

C'EST TOUT CE QU'ON VOUS DEMANDE....

Education!?

UPI

Je termine enfin, après 17 ans sur les bancs d'école, mon cours universitaire. L'université, la haute sphère d'éducation de l'humain du 20^{ème} siècle qui me décernera un beau diplôme à afficher dans ma salle de bain (pour faire "chier" comme on dit), un papier pour gagner mon pain... Hier j'ai relu quelques passages d'un livre de chevet:

"Notre éducation reste désespérément analytique, centrée sur quelques disciplines, comme un puzzle dont les pièces ne s'imbriquent pas les unes dans les autres. Elle ne nous prépare ni à l'approche globale des problèmes, ni au jeu de leurs interdépendances."

Joel de Rosnay, Le Macroscopie

Il me reste donc à assembler l'art à la science, mon cerveau droit au cerveau gauche, l'imagination à la structure, ma folie à ma raison ... et je serai éduqué.

Johanne Hébert

TRADING with NICARAGUA

Since July 15, 1979, the Nicaraguan nation freed herself from a military dictatorship that had lasted for 44 years under the Somoza regime. Many calamities had seriously hit this small country (130,000 km. sq.), a country with close to 3 millions inhabitants with a very low standard of living, very high child mortality rate and 70% illiteracy. In Dec. 1972 an earthquake destroyed the capital Managua, civil war from 1975 to 1979 brought with it bloody repression and bombardment of many of the residential & industrial zones of the cities. This accounted for the exterior debt of \$1,6 billions (US dollars) by fall of 1979.

International Aid had come mostly from U.S.A., Europe (CEE) (W. Germany, Great-Britain, France) and Canada had opened a credit line of \$20,000,000 in 1980. Aid totalized 450 millions in 1980, and had made possible among others things literacy campaign involving 63,000 instructors.

CANADIAN IMPORTS from NICARAGUA ('000 \$)

	PQ	ONT	ALB	BC	MAN
Fish, Sea-food	134	58	...	..	...
Bananas fr.	6	5	1,110	..	...
Table Mats	...	...	...	3	...
Fresh Veg.					
& Miscel food	8	...	...	...	...
Coffee	70	...	...	1010	274
Tobacco	73	...	...	...	...
Seeds & Oil S.	31	52	...	...	...
Wood	...	...	...	10	...
Minerals	...	3999	...	120	...
Precious Min.	...	4099	...	..	..
Cotton	...	...	...	..	..

6 months total: \$ 16,911,000.00

But today, Nicaragua is still in a very precarious economic situation, with inflation going up 25% per year and a huge commercial balance of payments deficit due to the nature of exportations, mainly coffee and cotton, plus a little bananas, sugar cane, cocoa, forest products such as pine-wood, cedar wood, mahogany and gualan, and gold mining (5000kg in 1970). Vs importations: manufactured products, machines and replacement pieces.

The main preoccupation of the Nicaraguan government is mainly economic development, in order to set up the foundations of social justice. However this goal is restricted up to now by military spendings caused by the fear of a US military intervention (direct or indirect via El-Salvador or Honduras) to overthrow their new government. Historically, the US hasn't been shy in protecting their interests in Central America (their "back-door garden") where the CIA had masterminded the overthrow of the free Guatemalan Government in 1954, for example, to install a military dictatorship again to protect the huge interests of United Fruits Co. threatened by the Agrarian reform that was beginning. Today, Nicaraguans point out they feel great friendship for American nation but fear most of all imperialism.

At present, cotton harvesting promises good yields and could possibly patch up the crumbling economy and allow the agrarian reform to take place

(old haciendas land nationalized and distributed, with the big units of production kept in place and allotments given to rural families), and the establishment of social improvement measures such as free access to health services, social assistance, and unemployment insurance. But the country is still too poor to do that on a wide scale and so is very dependent upon International Aid and development of good markets for trade.

Canada is one of the countries in a good position to help Nicaragua because of open minded trade policy and freedom from imperialism pretences, and independence from exterior political influence. He has the capacity to lend capital as well as high quality technological help (people & material) at very acceptable terms for a poor country, by various channels such as CIDA, IDRC, CUSO, ETC... This adapted technology could then be useful through-out South-America.

Nicaraguan & Canadian economies are complementary in forestry, agriculture, mining, tourism and energy exchanges between offshore petroleum & hydro-electricity. Nicaragua start building itself with great will, energy, efficiency & much hard work. Cooperating actively with them can prove very important in the political as well as economical balance between developed and developing countries in future years, especially in light of the constant turmoil that plagues Central & South Americas today.

A good move on our part as consumers is to actively patronize Nicaraguan products over similar one's from others sources. This applied mainly to coffee and tropical fruits and vegetables. Our money thus spent will then contribute more in an economy pursuing fair and equitable benefits for the people of an entire nation instead of going in large part to a multinational trust involved in perpetuating repression and social injustice on the backs of poor people to continually increase their profit margins, returns on investments, share value and Swiss bank accounts.

We can show our will to patronize Nicaraguan products to our wholesalers, retailers, suppliers, caterers, etc... so they can order via international trade import market. This, added to actions taken by our government to cooperate in an ever increasing way in the development of third world countries such as Nicaragua, are steps taken toward lasting peace and mutual benefits, helping at the same time to ease international tension.

Ref:

*Based on articles in "Le Devoir" (March 23 & 24, 1981)

"Faut-il coopérer avec le Nicaragua?" par Pierre Gauthier (Univ. de Mtl.)

*Data Statistic Canada

Bertrand Montpetit

CAFE MIRVA,

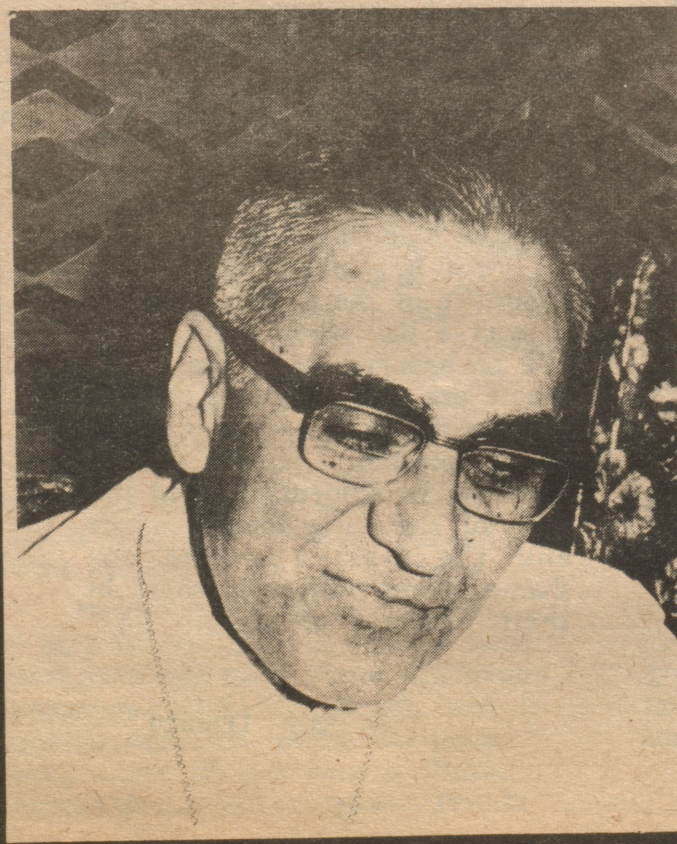
à Ste-Anne.



UN COIN
CHAUD
POUR SE
DÉTENDRE,

745 Rue Ste-Anne
453-2063

A WARM, FRIENDLY PLACE
FOR YOUR STOMACH



"Les chrétiens n'ont pas peur de la lutte. Ils savent combattre mais ils préfèrent le langage de la paix. Cependant, lorsqu'une dictature porte gravement atteinte aux droits humains et au bien commun de la nation, lorsqu'elle devient insupportable et que toutes les voies du dialogue, de l'entente, de la raison se ferment, alors l'Eglise parle du droit légitime à la violence insurrectionnelle."

Mgr. Oscar Arnulfo Romero

assassiné en célébrant la messe le soir du 24 mars 1980.

Comité de solidarité avec le peuple du Salvador section MAC - JAC

A SIMILAR EXPERIENCE IN RECYCLING

Four years ago I was studying Business Administration at the University of Montreal. It was my second year. While I was looking at journals I read about a glass recycling company in Montreal. I went to visit them, and it motivated me to act for the environment.

In the last year of my BBA, I took an elective course called 'Projects'. My topic was, 'How to establish paper recycling on campus.' I was supervised by a teacher in the production department.

As the idea got around, other students gradually joined the project to do their own term papers on such topics as 'Economics of Recycling', 'Handling and processing of recycled paper in a small shop', 'Financial study', and 'Personnel Management.'

For my part, I took the planning of the agenda, the marketing study and all the government and institutional lobbying.

We had an official meeting once a week, but we found that by getting space from the Students' Council, we could set up our own permanent headquarters-keeping all records, making phone calls and meeting daily.

We took the inventory of how much paper of different sorts was thrown away by the different departments. We made friends with all the departmental bosses and got permission to recycle their stuff. So we did.

Gathering paper at a reserved spot at the Shipping/Receiving dock, we sent it to a broker when the market was able to absorb it.

We received close to \$130 for the shipments we made during the year. I personally spent over thirty hours a week on the project, despite my other school work.

The Feasibility of Recycling

As the financial statement was compiled for the project, we realised that to establish recycling in all the CEGEP and University campuses in Montreal, and make it a profitable venture for a 'worker-cooperative of students, the amount of paper required approximated the waste paper of three or four large industries. We tried to get Bell Canada, the Federal Government, and Caisses Populaires Desjardins. But to get these contracts we had to ensure the destruction of confidential documents in the waste by some means, such as shredding.

The project was becoming a little more expensive, and the term was almost over. As the month of May approached, all the other students had jobs, but I didn't. It was impossible to get government financial aid for the project, so I joined a glass recycling company, and, in accordance with the boss's wishes, designed a project for the expansion of the firm's production facilities.

In June, the government received our application for funding, (about \$100,000), inspectors came and asked for more details. We had to improve the project three times, each time asking for a little more money.

As the project appeared to be coming close to acceptance by the government, I asked the manager to fulfil three conditions, which he didn't respect.* So I retired and afterwards the organization didn't get its financial aid. And I still have all my ideas fresh in my mind until people are ready to accept and help recycling.

So afterwards I just recycled myself, and after one year of slavery in the office of a multi-national, I got into agricultural studies...and I'm still writing all my notes on recycled IBM paper.

Yvon Sylvain, Dip I.

*The three conditions I asked for, since the company was a non-profit organization, always

operating \$10,000 in the red, were:

- 1) To countersign checks
- 2) To elect a Board of Directors, since none existed.
- 3) To get part of the equity if the project changed status, and to issue shares, thereby ensuring the equitable distribution of ownership of the company.

IN QUEST OF KNOWLEDGE !

What a fool I was!

I always thought of a university student as a person with an insatiable thirst for knowledge, a Sir Galahad in quest of the holy Grail. I was appalled and disappointed by the small number of students who came to the project presentations given by their fellow students.

There's something definitely wrong here.

Granted, there are problems with our present day education system. It's like an assembly line, sucking in the student at one end excreting out the student at the other end with a piece of paper stating that the holder of that paper is now smart.

All that person has to do during that three year span of supposed enlightenment is to memorize what they're told to memorize and regurgitate it come exam time.

A person's university stay should be one of maturing, a time when a personal learning process is perfected, a time when a person becomes a fully independent thinker, it's certainly not a time when a human being is trained like a chimpanzee. Yes, there's definitely something wrong with our education system, but it's students who make up that system.

The day of the project presentations was our big chance to get out of the everyday school routine, to momentarily stop the assembly line.

But how many of us took advantage of the golden moment. It was a day when some of us had an opportunity to show that people are still creative, able to put together a project and see it to completion. It was a day when fellow students showed the fruit of their imaginative minds and the rest of us, to our shame, weren't there to share in their moment of glory.

Sam D'anico

Le Quai
BULK NATURAL FOODS

53 Ste. Anne Street
Ste. Anne de Bellevue
457-9270



Doux billet doux

Tout ça a commencé au Café Macadam
Les français sont arrivés
pis la chicane a poigné
ça sert à rien d'brailler...
i faut aller jusqu'au bout
(air bien connu de notre idole
Charlebois)

Et encore de l'encre qui coule
sur un Thème qui a fait couler
beaucoup d'encre, qui conduisit
même à une cabale électorale
belligérente...

Les finances au rouge, un
malentendu sur un permis
d'alcool des shows (excellents à
l'avis de plusieurs) des
divergences d'opinions et l'image
peut-être d'un French Power
Café -- Dommage!! au moins on
s'est senti bouger, déranger...
l'échec d'une bataille ou la
victoire prochaine d'une troupe
se mettant au pas pas pas...

Pour les étrangers les Plaines
d'Abraham sont au folklore du
Québec, dans la belle ville de
Québec, ce que le Café Macadam
est au folklore du Campus
Macdonald, au Centennial Center:
un endroit où la chicane a
poigné mais où on a toujours
fêté autour d'un feu, d'une bière,
d'un café, d'un show, d'un
chum....

Johanne Hébert

Politics of Food Group

The Politics of Food Group
is simply a group of students
who have come together on
a regular basis to discuss

selected reading in the
social, economic and, of course,
political aspects of agriculture
both on a North American and
on a Global basis. Its primary
goal is to instill a greater
awareness of the many
not-so-obvious repercussions of
food production upon people who
are either directly or indirectly
involved in agriculture. By using
an informal seminar format
dealing with selected reading on a
wide range of selected topics
(for example, it is not well
known that the worldwide
problem of hunger is a very
serious problem for several
million citizens of the world's
leading food producer, the United
States, we have, as a group,
acquired a basic knowledge of
the wider implications of
agriculture for society as a
whole.

The group has dealt with
the realities of our present
agriculture production system
here in North America. By this
is meant the reality of
oligopolistic control being
exercised by handful of large
corporations, the reality of fewer
but larger farms and the decline
of the family farm, the vertical
and horizontal integration that so
characterizes agribusiness, and on
and on.

The reality of the unequal
relationships which exist between
the developing and the developed
world has also been brought
home to us through our reading
and discussions. Developed
countries of North America and
Europe on this point is
questionable and we have found

that the rest the world does not
always share our confidence in
the North American modes for
agriculture (i.e. energy and
capital intensive environmentally
unsafe, etc...)

The causes and remedies
which we are used to hearing
associated with food policy issues
are very often not the same
ones which a more in-depth
study of the subject might
uncover. For this reason alone,
we feel that the existence of a
student group of this kind serves
to broaden the education which
unfortunately all too often is
limited to superficial
understanding of the conventional
wisdom which prevails more
specifically, the group must
strive to open each participant's
mind to new ideas, and new
solutions to fundamental
questions regarding man's
agricultural endeavours.

With this in mind, the
group would be seen to have
anyone who has any interest at
all in the subjects we are
dealing with to join us. Among
the principal goals which we
would hope to attain through
these meetings are FIRST the
possible creation of an
accredited course dealing with
the politics of food, and
SECOND the stimulation of your
participation in the planning of a
seminar series for next year
which would reflect your own
concerns and interests. If these
goals appear to be compatible
with a need which you, as
agricultural goals: course seminar
series to promote awareness of
rest of students, feel currently
fulfilled by your course or
otherwise, get in touch the group
through Sue Johnson in Barton.
Dav Smith

Ecolopensant

"Rien ne se perd, rien ne se crée"
jusqu'au moment où la roue a
brisé un essieu et qu'elle ne
peut plus tourner, et plouf! le
charriot s'écroule...

Johanne

KASHMIR - A HAPPY VALLEY

Whenever we talk of Kashmir we
think of "Cashemir" a fine wool.
Let us learn more about it.

The Jammu and Kashmir, one
of the northern states of India,
is bounded on the north west
by Afghanistan. On the south by
China; on the east by Tibet and
on the south by India and Pa-
kistan.

Kashmir with its open
vale or "happy Valley" famed
for its beauty since Mughal
(Mogul) times and with its
surrounding hills and valleys
is a tourist and pleasure resort.
Srinagar, the summer capital
of the state is in the vale,
Jammu, its winter capital is at
the southern foot of the Himmala-
yas. North and Northeast of the
vale form the axial zone of the
great Himalayas. Nanga Parbat
(26660 ft) is the highest peak.

Ladakh, the eastern province,
is one of the most elevated
regions of the world. Between Kash-
mir and Ladakh is the Sindhu
Valley, best known for its pano-
ramic scenery.

There is a wide climatic
variation. The temperature of the
vale varies between minus 12
to 37 C, its climate is ideal
in early summer and autumn. Planes
(Chineros) are common in the vale
and poplars line many of the
roads. Wild animals include ibex,
mural, the Kashmir stag, black
and brown bears and many game
birds including vast numbers of
ducks migrating in the winter.

People of different cultu-
re and faith live in three main
provinces and speak three different
languages: Kashmiri, Dogri and
Ladakhi. Agriculture is the main
occupation of the people. Both
temperate and sub-tropical fruits

such as apples, pears, quinces,
apricots, peaches, strawberries,
raspberries, mulberries, walnuts,
almonds, mangoes and oranges are
grown. In India, Kashmir is known
as a state of fruits. Variety of
apple known as "Kashmiri Ambri"
is very famous for its aroma, taste,
flavour and keeping quality.
Rice, maize, barley, rape, mustard
wheat and linseed are the main
cultivated crops. The state has
well developed forest resources
in the mountains. Sericulture
dates back 4 centuries to Mughal
times, mulberry trees being
widely grown.

Another nobility is "Saffron".
The cultivation of Saffron (*Crocus
Sativus*), noted for its yellow
dye and its use as good flavouring
is an ancient industry. Bee-keeping
and the mushroom is becoming popular.

Cont'd p.8



(Photo: Jean-Luc Yelle; Graph.: H. Brochard)

Jen Waterhouse Guy Tourigny Wilfrid Raby Christine Deschamps Marc-Antoine Pelletier

Jean Vigneux Johanne Hébert Hubert Brochard

ET... Dave Smith, malheureusement absent pour la photo.

Have a happy summer !! (Stay cool...)

Enquête Vigneault Inquiry

Some said Vigneault's concert has not been a success for lots of people. So let me ask you a question: if Gilles Vigneault comes back next year, would you go to his concert?

YES

NO

Answers will be accepted at the CC desk until friday april 10th, 5 P.M.



Cont'd... from p. 7.

(...) Cashmere is the down fiber derived from under fleece (pashm) of the domesticated asian goat. The name Cashmere became well known because of the fame of the beautiful shawls handwoven of pashm in the city of Srinagan, Kashmir. Today, the term cashmere used as the finish and softest animal fibers in the textile industry.

(...) There is a persian saying that Kashmir is a paradise on earth. It is famous for its natural beauty, clear lakes, green pastures, high mountains, mugal gardens, orchards, and handicrafts. Thousands of tourists visit Kashmir every year from all around the world. It becomes an international place where one meets other people from all walks of life.(...)

For your new experience, and pleasure, take summer holidays in Kashmir. It may be very interesting.

Nargal, Mohd. Sadiq